

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The specification as amended below with replacement paragraphs shows added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~.

Please REPLACE the paragraph [0038] on page 12 with the following paragraph:

[0038] When the operating system M4 is started up, the operating system M4 reads the system software stored in the disk device D1 in which it is itself stored into the main memory M, loads the system software M5, and starts up the system software M5. Here, when the system software ~~M4-M5~~M5 is operated normally, the operation is shifted to.

Please REPLACE the paragraph [0040] on page 12 with the following paragraph:

[0040] When the system software M5 can normally shift to operation, the system software ~~M4-M5~~M5 can execute switching control, so if detecting an abnormality of the boot disk drive D1, the disk drive D1 can be cut off. In this case, in the next reboot, the boot disk drive D1 is switched to, so the system software ~~M4-M5~~M5 rewrites the environment data of the boot firmware environment variable area NM2 in the nonvolatile memory NM.

Please REPLACE the paragraph [0062] on pages 17 and 18 with the following paragraph:

[0062] Further, when the system software M5 starts up normally, the system software M5 clears to 0 the second variable "~~boot-disk-unit-index~~" "boot-device-index" recorded in the boot firmware environment variable area NM21. Due to this processing, even at the next reboot, the above boot is executed from the same disk device D1 again. Which disk device, that of the master system of that of the slave system, is used for startup is checked. When it is recognized that the disk device of the slave system was used for startup, an error message is notified (step S110). The subsequent processing for switching the disk devices is executed by the system software M5 (step S111).

Please REPLACE the paragraph [0088] on page 24 with the following paragraph:

[0088] Here, if a boot by the boot firmware ~~M5-M1~~M5 by the configuration of a data processing system of the related art before the present embodiment is executed, as shown in FIG. 7, the boot firmware environment variable area NM2 will not have the third variable "boot-device-index-available" ("N" at step S302), so the operation will be in the range of the system

configuration of the related art shown in FIG. 7 and therefore normal operation of the operating system will immediately be shifted to (step S305).